

Tecopa Pass Historic Trails Special Recreation Management Area

RMA/RECREATION MANAGEMENT ZONE (RMZ) OBJECTIVE(S) DECISIONS

Objective Statement: Designate this area as a Special Recreation Management Area. Provide the recreational user a campground setting which promotes responsible outdoor recreational opportunities within a wilderness-like setting.

The Tecopa Pass is surrounded by three National Wilderness Areas: the Kingston Range, the North Mesquite Mountains and the Pahrump Valley. The Kingston Range, the dominant mountain range in the area, was once a formidable obstacle for Spanish Explorers, Traders and American Immigrants. The route which carried these pioneers westward through the area dates back to the 1600's thereby getting the name the "Old Spanish Trail".

Due to the high topography and annual snowfall, the area is rich in vegetation and water. Native American populations depended heavily on its resources for survival. The Tecopa Pass contains many fresh water springs which settlers sought out during the dangerous migration across the desert.

During the recent past, mining of the nation's largest talc deposit occur within the Kingston and Mesquite Mountains. Ranchers managed herds of range cattle which were specially bred to exist in the harsh area.

Today, recreationalists seek the isolation of the area for the peace not easily found in the urban communities of Las Vegas and Barstow. The Kingston Peak with an elevation of 7,300 feet draws many "peak walkers" from around the Southwest.

Activities: Educational Field Trips/Nature Studies, Hunting, Camping, and Hiking,

Experiences: Walk the same route that Early Explorers and Native Americans did and learn about their experiences.

Benefits:

Personal: Learn about this unique landscape and its wildlife local species through interpretation and education kiosks located at the overlook, the trailhead and on the trail. Increased health and fitness with an overall sense of relaxation and reduced stress.

Community/Social: Increased tourism and revenue for the local economy.

Environmental: Protect the cultural, natural and visual resource while providing recreation opportunities.

RECREATION SETTING CHARACTERISTICS (RSC) DESCRIPTIONS

Physical Components: Front to Back Country

Social Components: Front to Back Country

Operational Components: Front to Back Country

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS & ALLOWABLE USES

Acres by Alternative on BLM Lands:

No Action	Preferred Alternative	1	2	3	4
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Renewable Energy: Renewable energy development is not an allowable use in SRMAs due to the incompatibility with the values of the SRMA. Two exceptions to this management action are: 1) geothermal development is an allowable use if a geothermal-only DFA overlays the SRMA designation and complies with a "no surface occupancy" restriction; and 2) in the Preferred Alternatives, if a DRECP variance land designation overlays the SRMA, renewable energy may be allowed on a case-by-case basis if the proposed project is found to be compatible with the specific SRMA values.

Recreation and Visitor Services Program: Manage to provide protection of natural and cultural resources consistent with law, regulation and policy; Provide facility development to enhance recreation opportunities while providing protection to the surrounding wilderness units. Issuance of Special Recreation Permits for day use or overnight use up to 14 consecutive nights; that impact no more than 3 staging area acres; and/or for recreational travel along roads and trails designated open in the land use or accompanying activity level plans. Routine maintenance of the Mojave Adventure Trails System shall occur. Manage all routes of travel as open, limited or closed, as designated in the local TTMP.

Other Programs: Continue with agency natural resource multiple use management practices within the area. Allow all types of activities to occur within the area, except those with unacceptable safety concerns or degrade the environment. Manage as Visual Resource Management Class II.

Implementation Decisions: An activity level plan would be developed to identify and designate current and future recreational opportunities, appropriate facilities to provide for and manage the proposed uses, parameters for streamlined Special Recreation Permitting of recreation events, staffing and funding needs, parameters for facility and road/trail maintenance, partnerships, possible recreation fee considerations, and an implementation schedule. Including:

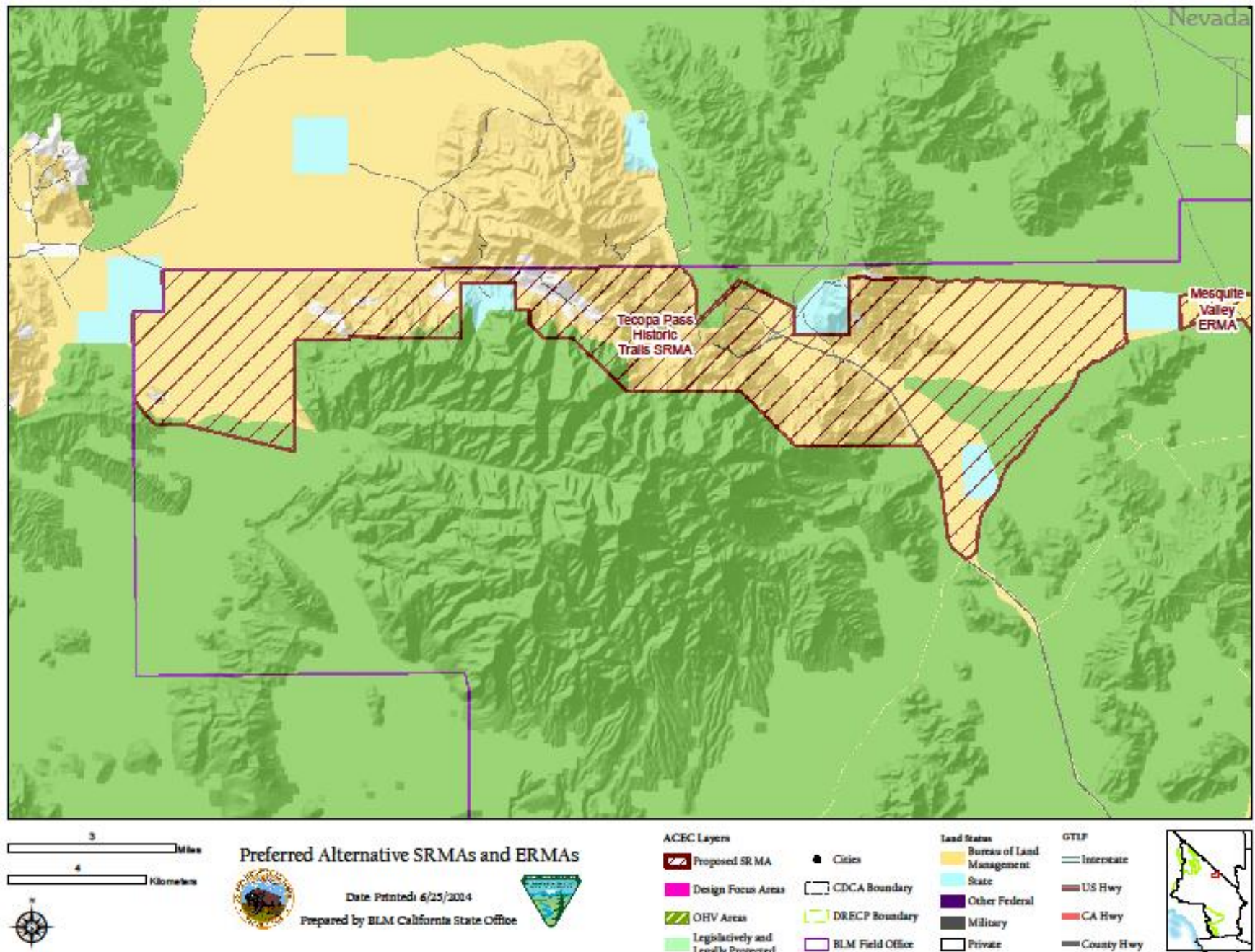
1. Consider a Business Plan for Horsethief Campground
2. Consider Camping RUP program
3. Develop Hiking Trails and Trailheads
4. Pursue Watchable Wildlife Designation
5. Routine signs, markers, culverts, ditches, water bars, barriers, gates, or cattle guards on/or adjacent to system roads and trails.
6. Provide parameters to streamline permitting for Special Recreational Permit events.

Mitigation:

1. Maintain through traffic motorized route network connectivity with roads and trails leading into and through the Tecopa Pass Historic Trails SRMA.

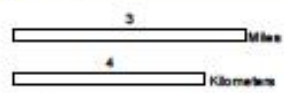
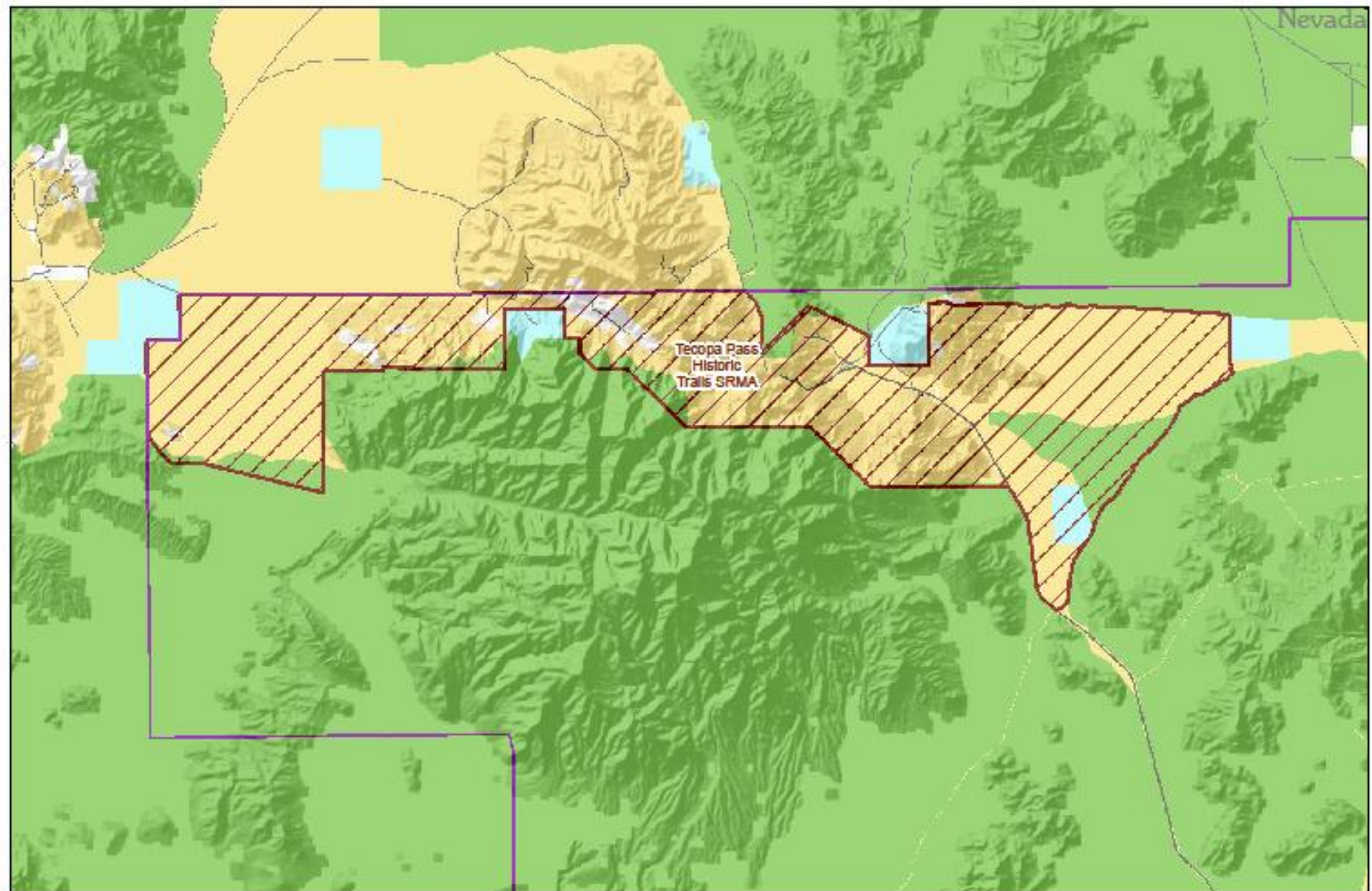
2. Manage renewable energy development on adjacent and nearby lands to avoid traffic conflicts with visitors and permitted uses.

Tecopa Pass Historic Trails SRMA



The information and maps shown on this system should be used for planning purposes only. It should not be the sole source for determining map boundary locations.

Tecopa Pass Historic Trails SRMA



Alternative 1 SRMAs

Date Printed: 6/25/2014

Prepared by BLM California State Office



ACEC Layers

- Proposed SRMA
- Design Focus Areas
- OHV Areas
- Legislatively and Legally Protected

- Cities
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

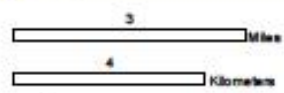
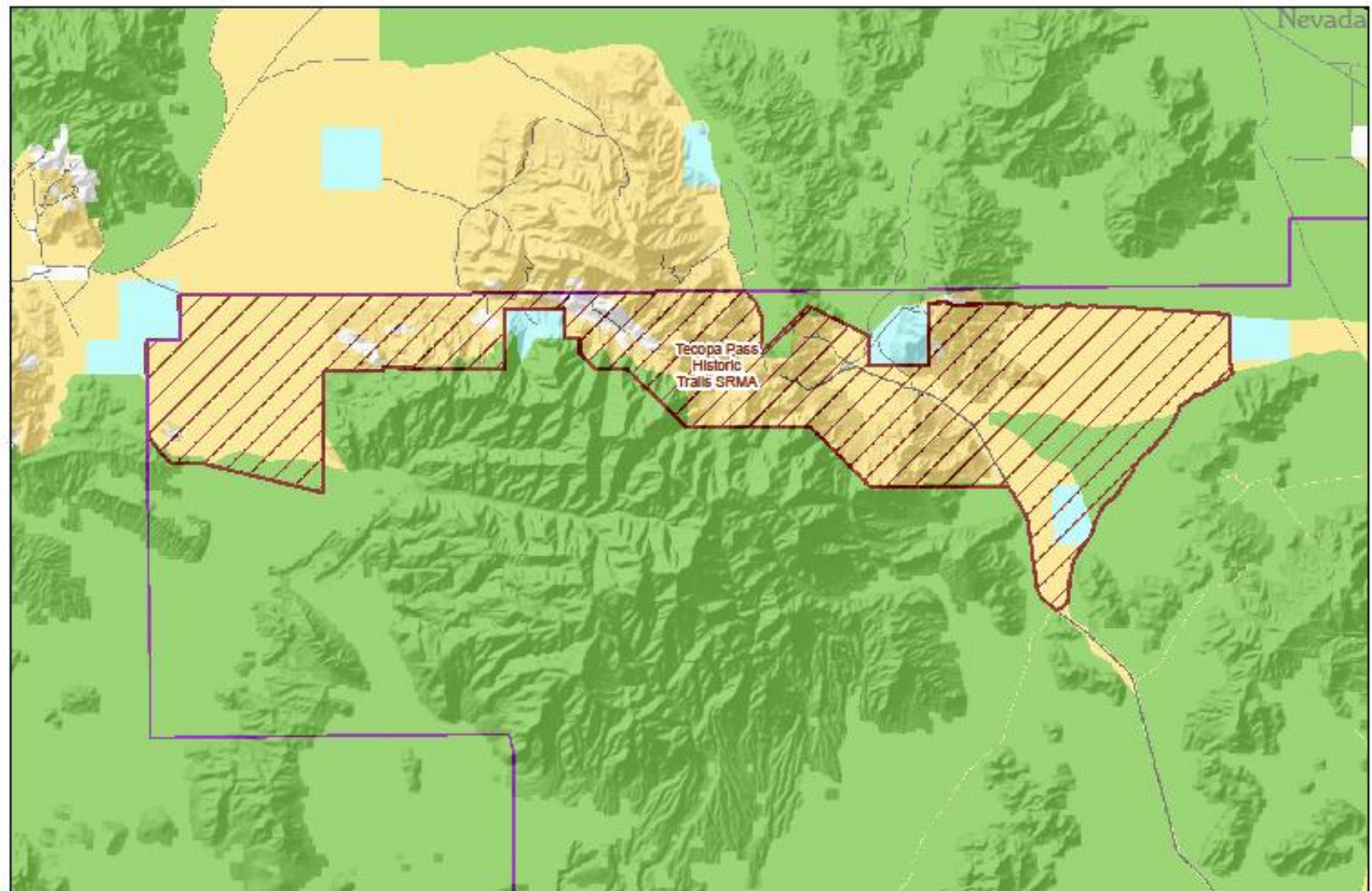
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTIF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Tecopa Pass Historic Trails SRMA



Alternative 2 SRMAs

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Land Status

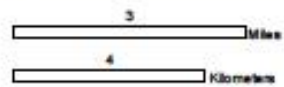
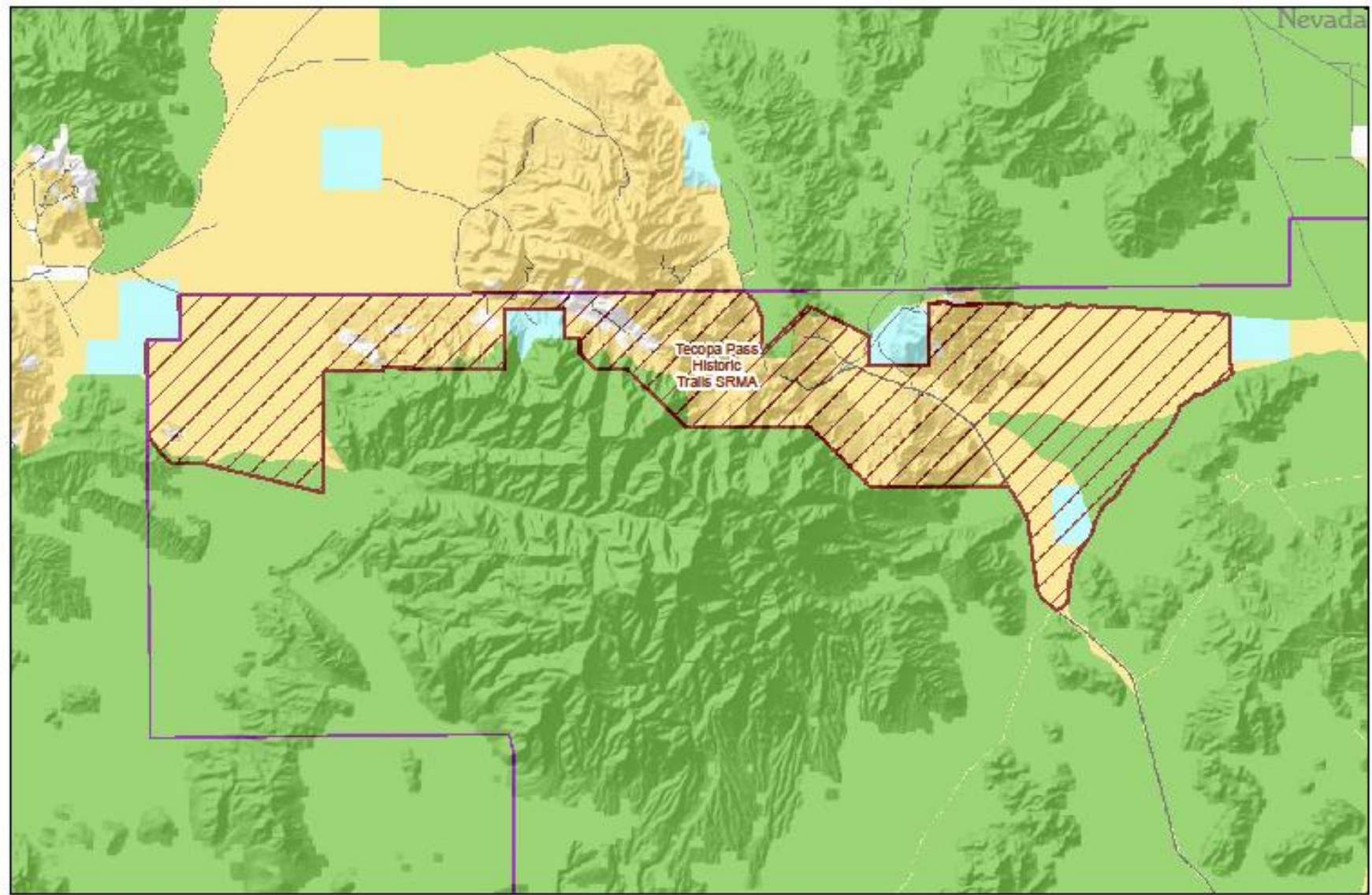
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GTIF

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Tecopa Pass Historic Trails SRMA



Alternative 3 SRMAs

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Prepared by BLM California State Office



ACEC Layers

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- OHV Areas
- Legislatively and Legally Protected
- Cities
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

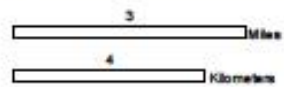
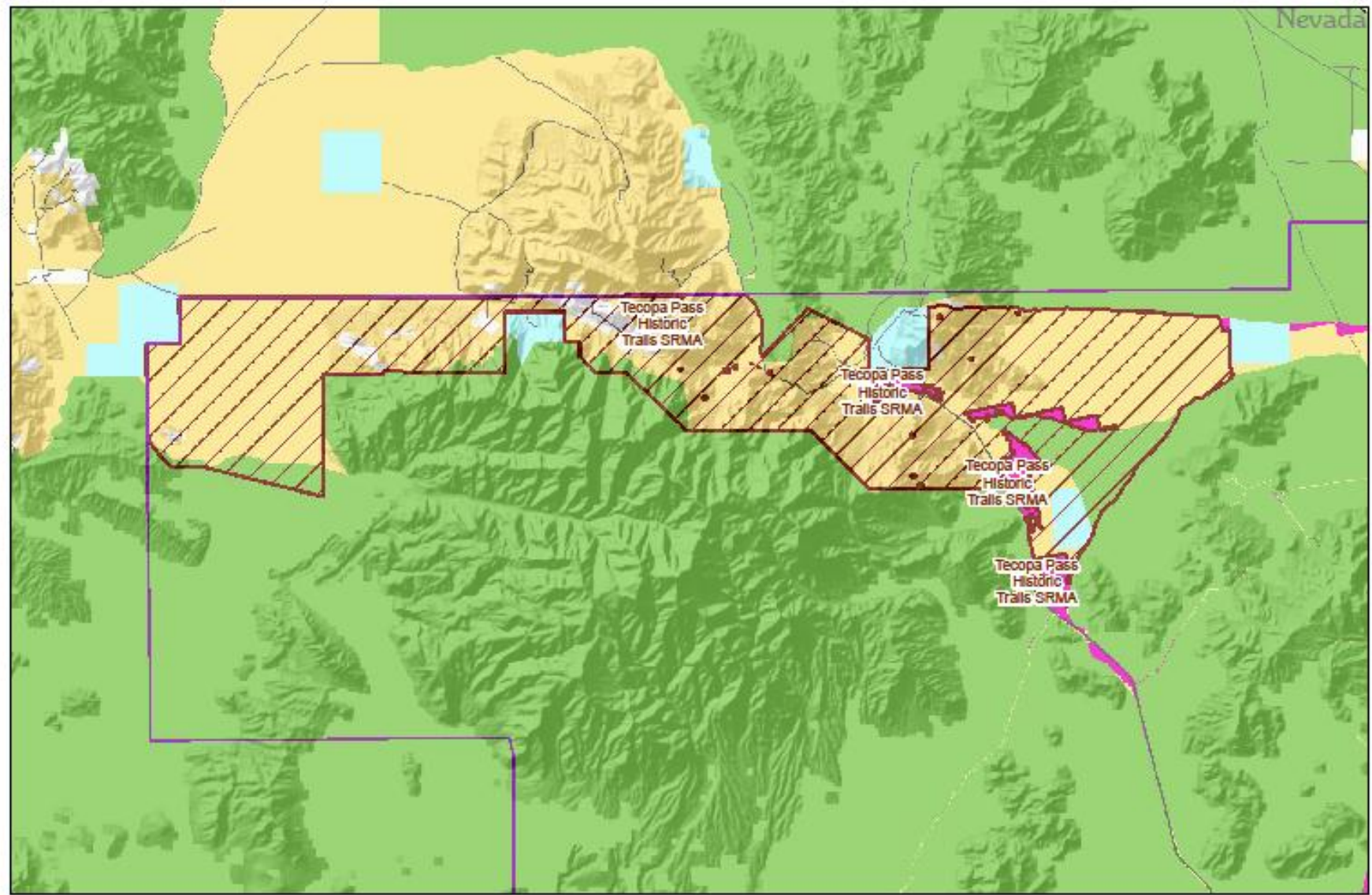
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- Military
- Private

GTLP

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- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Tecopa Pass Historic Trails SRMA



Alternative 4 SRMAs

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Prepared by BLM California State Office



ACEC Layers

- Proposed SRMA
- Design Focus Areas
- OHV Areas
- Legislatively and Legally Protected

- Cities
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLP

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

